

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, February 15, 2002
Rick Malaspina (925) 987-9232
rick.malaspina@ucop.edu

COSMOS CALLS OUT TO NEW MEXICO STUDENTS

University of California extends summer program to New Mexico for second year

COSMOS is cool. Just ask Lilly Allen.

She's 15 and a junior at Capital High School in Santa Fe. Last summer she was among the first group of students from New Mexico to attend COSMOS, a University of California summer enrichment program for college-bound students who excel in science and mathematics.

Allen wants to attend COSMOS again this year and right now she's joining UC representatives who are visiting New Mexico high schools to talk about COSMOS and encourage qualified students to apply for the program before the March 15 deadline for priority review of applications.

"I enjoyed it a lot and it helped me in my chemistry class," Allen said of her COSMOS experience at UC Davis, where she studied materials science. "It made me really interested in my science and math classes and made me work harder. I saw that I could accomplish more and it was fun, too."

For the second year, in conjunction with its management of the Los Alamos National Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration, UC is offering the opportunity for qualified New Mexico students completing grades eight through twelve to attend COSMOS. Tuition for COSMOS is the same for New Mexico students as it is for California residents, \$1,100. Tuition covers instruction, rooming and all meals in campus residence halls as well as local transportation costs and other expenses. Financial aid is available for eligible New Mexico applicants.

Now in its third year at UC, COSMOS stands for the California State Summer School for Mathematics and Science and takes place at three UC campuses ^ Davis, Irvine and Santa Cruz. Students apply directly to the campus of their choice. The campuses then select students based on factors such as test scores, grade point average, achievement in science projects, teacher recommendations, and community service.

COSMOS sessions run for a month at each of the three campuses: July 6 through Aug. 3 at Davis, July 14 through Aug. 10 at Irvine, and June 23 through July 20 at Santa Cruz. Students live in campus dormitories, participate in social and cultural events, and study topics not traditionally taught in high school, including aerospace engineering,

biomedical sciences, robotics, oceanography, neuroscience and biochemistry, computer science, astronomy, advanced mathematics, and volcanology. COSMOS students hear from distinguished scientists and Nobel Prize winners. They also interact with undergraduate and graduate students, have access to a wide variety of campus laboratories and other facilities, and take field trips.

For more information about COSMOS and to download application and financial aid forms, students should visit the COSMOS web site at www.ucop.edu/cosmos, call the UC Northern New Mexico Office at (800) 985-7232, or visit the office in downtown Los Alamos at 1350 Central Ave., Suite 101, adjacent to the Bradbury Science Museum.

Students, parents, teachers and counselors also are welcome to communicate directly by e-mail or telephone with COSMOS representatives in California. The UC Northern New Mexico Office can arrange for this.